12/15/86

noticias de la semana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of December 15, 1986

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OVER THE MONTH, BLS REPORTS

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SAYS NEW WOMEN'S BUREAU DIRECTOR

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of December 15, 1986

HISPANIC UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FALLS OVER THE MONTH, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for Hispanic workers was 9.5 percent in November, reflecting a drop of 1 percentage point over the month, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

In her prepared statement before the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, Janet L. Norwood, commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, cautioned the although the Hispanic jobless rate dropped a full percentage point, "we need more months of data to determine whether the November change represents the beginning of a new trend."

The November rate for blacks was 14.3 percent; for whites, 6.1 percent.

The Bureau reported that overall, the number of jobs on nonfarm business payrolls rose in November and unemployment was unchanged. The overall unemployment rate was 6.9 percent, and the civilian employment has increased by over 11 million. As is typical in recoveries, however, the pace of job growth has slowed in the 2 most recent years.

Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the survey of business establishments--rose by 250,000 over the month, while civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--was little changed. During the economic recovery period that now covers 4 full years, the number of nonfarm payroll jobs has grown by more than 12 million, while total civilian employment has increased by over 11 million. As is typical in recoveries, however, the pace of job growth has slowed in the 2 most recent years.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was about unchanged in November at 8.3 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker unemployment rate remained at 7.0 percent. Unemployment rates for adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (18.4 percent), whites (6.1 percent), and blacks (14.3 percent) showed little or no change from October.

The mean and median duration of unemployment were about unchanged, at 14.8 and 7.0 weeks, respectively. The numbers of job losers, job leavers, and reentrants to the labor force also were little different from October levels. By contrast, the total seeking jobs for the first time (new entrants) increased by 150,000 to 1.1 million over the month.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons--sometimes referred to as the partially unemployed--reversed the increase of the prior month with a decline of 220,000 to 5.6 million in November. This decrease occurred among persons who could not find full-time work.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment was little changed at 110.4 million, seasonally adjusted. A 275,000 employment increase among adult men was partially offset by a small decline in teenage employment, while employment among adult women was unchanged. The proportion of the civilian population that is employed edged up to 60.9 percent in November, matching the record high set in August.

The civilian labor force was little changed at 118.7 million in November, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force has grown by 2.1 million (after adjustment is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment, at 101.1 million, rose by 250,000 in November, seasonally adjusted. Almost all of the job growth was in the service-producing sector, continuing the recent pattern. In fact, the service-producing sector has accounted for all of the 2.4 million job expansion from a year earlier. In the goods-producing sector, over-the-year employment declines in mining and manufacturing were offset by gains in construction.

The largest over-the-month increase in the service-producing sector took place in the services industry--120,000--with both business and health services contributing to the increase. Elsewhere in the sector, employment rose in finance, insurance, and real estate and in transportation and public utilities, the latter partly due to the return of communications workers who had been on strike. Job totals in wholesale trade, retail trade, and government were little changed, after adjustment for seasonality. In retail trade, general merchandising, which usually expands in November due to pre-Christmas hiring, grew at a somewhat slower pace this November than is typical.

Employment in manufacturing edged up in November. Changes were small but generally on the upside. As reflected by the BLS index of diffusion, which is made up predominantly of manufacturing industries, over-the-month job gains were more widespread than at any time in the past year.

Construction employment dropped about in line with the usual seasonal expectation for November and, for the third straight month, was essentially unchanged after seasonal adjustment. Mining employment has changed little in the past 2 months, in contrast to the sharp losses earlier in the year.

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Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.9 in November, up 0.2 hour, after seasonal adjustment. The manufacturing workweek also rose 0.2 hour to a relatively high 40.9 hours, while overtime hours remained unchanged at 3.5 hours.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls rose by 0.7 percent to 119.5 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index was up by 0.9 percent to 93.5.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings were up 0.5 percent in November, and average weekly earnings increased 1.0 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 4 cents to $8.85, while average weekly earnings were up $1.39 to $307.98. Compared to a year earlier, average hourly and weekly earnings rose by 19 cents and $6.61, respectively. (See table B-3.)

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 170.7 (1977=100) in November, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.4 percent from October. For the 12 months ended in November, the increase was 2.3 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.1 percent during the 12-month period ended in October.

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EMPLOYMENT, P 4

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Nov. 1985	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1986	Nov. 1985	July 1986	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986	Nov. 1986
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	154,203	155,856	155,979	154,203	155,502	155,604	155,723	155,856	155,979
Civilian labor force	100,473	102,504	102,455	100,478	101,922	102,189	102,127	102,326	102,465
Participation rate	65.2	65.8	65.7	65.2	65.5	65.7	65.6	65.7	65.7
Employed	94,769	96,702	96,555	94,507	95,760	96,271	95,953	96,158	96,249
Employment-population ratio[2]	61.5	62.0	61.9	61.3	61.6	61.9	61.6	61.7	61.7
Unemployed	5,704	5,802	5,899	5,971	6,162	5,918	6,174	6,169	6,219
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.1
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	53,077	53,741	53,930	53,125	53,528	53,571	53,669	53,724	54,044
Participation rate	78.5	78.3	78.5	78.5	78.2	78.2	78.3	78.3	78.7
Employed	50,459	51,157	51,163	50,380	50,599	50,870	50,798	50,801	51,112
Employment-population ratio[2]	74.6	74.6	74.5	74.5	73.9	74.3	74.1	74.0	74.4
Unemployed	2,618	2,584	2,768	2,745	2,929	2,701	2,872	2,923	2,932
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.4
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	40,915	42,157	41,951	40,538	41,646	41,705	41,555	41,616	41,502
Participation rate	54.8	56.0	55.6	54.3	55.4	55.4	55.2	55.2	55.0
Employed	38,832	39,958	39,893	38,366	39,424	39,538	39,366	39,445	39,342
Employment-population ratio[2]	52.0	53.0	52.9	51.4	52.4	52.6	52.3	52.4	52.2
Unemployed	2,083	2,199	2,058	2,172	2,222	2,167	2,189	2,171	2,159
Unemployment rate	5.1	5.2	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.2
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	6,481	6,607	6,573	6,815	6,748	6,914	6,903	6,986	6,922
Participation rate	54.6	55.5	55.2	57.4	56.8	58.2	58.1	58.7	58.2
Employed	5,478	5,588	5,500	5,761	5,737	5,864	5,790	5,911	5,795
Employment-population ratio[2]	46.2	47.0	46.2	48.6	48.3	49.3	48.7	49.7	48.7
Unemployed	1,004	1,019	1,073	1,054	1,011	1,050	1,113	1,075	1,127
Unemployment rate	15.5	15.4	16.3	15.5	15.0	15.2	16.1	15.4	16.3
Men	16.4	15.5	16.8	15.8	15.3	16.7	17.0	15.4	16.3
Women	14.5	15.3	15.8	15.1	14.7	13.5	15.2	15.4	16.3
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	19,790	20,089	20,120	19,790	20,002	20,028	20,056	20,089	20,120
Civilian labor force	12,423	12,720	12,695	12,457	12,601	12,473	12,630	12,732	12,720
Participation rate	62.8	63.3	63.1	62.9	63.0	62.3	63.0	63.4	63.2
Employed	10,564	10,902	10,946	10,518	10,836	10,654	10,757	10,893	10,899
Employment-population ratio[2]	53.4	54.3	54.4	53.1	54.2	53.2	53.6	54.2	54.2
Unemployed	1,859	1,819	1,749	1,939	1,766	1,819	1,873	1,830	1,820
Unemployment rate	15.0	14.3	13.8	15.6	14.0	14.6	14.8	14.4	14.3
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,803	5,940	5,951	5,772	5,951	5,855	5,895	5,931	5,924
Participation rate	74.5	74.7	74.8	74.1	75.2	73.9	74.3	74.6	74.4
Employed	5,055	5,177	5,209	4,983	5,194	5,080	5,089	5,131	5,147
Employment-population ratio[2]	64.9	65.1	65.4	63.9	65.6	64.1	64.1	64.5	64.7
Unemployed	748	763	742	789	757	775	806	800	777
Unemployment rate	12.9	12.8	12.5	13.7	12.7	13.2	13.7	13.5	13.1
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,805	5,962	5,977	5,810	5,840	5,821	5,865	5,920	5,963
Participation rate	58.9	59.6	59.7	59.0	58.7	58.4	58.7	59.2	59.5
Employed	5,033	5,199	5,238	5,017	5,144	5,092	5,132	5,189	5,212
Employment-population ratio[2]	51.1	52.0	52.3	50.9	51.7	51.1	51.4	51.9	52.0
Unemployed	773	763	738	793	696	728	733	732	752
Unemployment rate	13.3	12.8	12.4	13.6	11.9	12.5	12.5	12.4	12.6
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	815	818	767	875	810	797	871	881	832
Participation rate	37.9	38.2	35.8	40.7	38.0	37.3	40.7	41.1	38.8
Employed	477	525	499	518	497	482	537	574	540
Employment-population ratio[2]	22.2	24.5	23.3	24.1	23.3	22.6	25.1	26.8	25.2
Unemployed	338	293	269	357	313	315	334	307	292
Unemployment rate	41.5	35.8	35.0	40.8	38.6	39.5	38.3	34.8	35.1
Men	47.2	38.8	35.6	45.2	41.6	37.4	38.9	38.1	34.2
Women	35.3	32.8	34.5	36.0	35.1	41.8	37.8	31.6	36.0
HISPANIC ORIGIN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,075	12,469	12,505	12,075	12,362	12,397	12,432	12,469	12,505
Civilian labor force	7,795	8,241	8,253	7,782	8,123	8,102	8,170	8,210	8,244
Participation rate	64.6	66.1	66.0	64.4	65.7	65.4	65.7	65.8	65.9
Employed	6,965	7,410	7,476	6,953	7,274	7,213	7,264	7,351	7,461
Employment-population ratio[2]	57.7	59.4	59.8	57.6	58.8	58.2	58.4	59.0	59.7
Unemployed	830	831	777	829	849	889	906	858	783
Unemployment rate	10.6	10.1	9.4	10.7	10.5	11.0	11.1	10.5	9.5

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Week of December 15, 1986

ISSUES OF WORKING WOMEN 'TOP NATIONAL PRIORITY,'
SAYS NEW WOMEN'S BUREAU DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON -- Shirley Dennis, new director of the Labor Department's Women's Bureau, has called issues of working women "one of our top national priorities."

Writing for a column in Labor Relations Today, a bimonthly publication of the department's Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs, Dennis pointed out that, while women have always participated in the work force, "there is a major difference" between the issues of today's working women and those faced by women in the past.

In the past, women were accepted in the work force on a temporary basis, such as during World War II, but "women today are in the work force to stay, and permanent accommodations are required," Dennis said.

Noting that the nation is heavily involved in the issues of working women, Dennis said "this is one of our top national priorities. We must bring about permanent social change to benefit working women and their families."

Dennis wrote:

"A few years ago, without a national support system, working women tried to be superwomen--perfect mothers, perfect wives, and perfect workers. In many cases what they achieved was perfect exhaustion. Fortunately, women have proven themselves in the workplace. The superwoman's cape can be left behind. But the demands we all face in balancing work and family responsibilities remain and cannot be overlooked."

"Work and family demands are not women's problems alone. Increasingly, men are becoming involved in the work-family arena. The concerns of dual-career couples, single parents, and employees with elderly or dependent relatives take their toll in the work place. Employers, unions, educators, and virtually all segments of society are addressing these issues in some way."

Dennis, who recently took charge of the Women's Bureau, praised Secretary of Labor William E. Brock for his "strong leadership role in bringing work-family life issues to the forefront."

Describing these issues as "an important frontier," Dennis said she will participate in a conference, "Work and Family Life: Seeking a New Balance," to be held March 30 and 31, 1987, in Washington, D.C. The conference is coordinated by the Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs which is headed by Stephen I. Schlossberg, deputy under secretary of labor.

As the new director of the Women's Bureau and chief federal advocate for the country's 51 million working women, Dennis pledged that the bureau would continue its efforts to work with various women's groups. She also underscored her personal commitment to develop a dialogue on the issues of work and family life as she travels around the country in the coming months.

# # #

Week of December 15, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Task Force of Economic Adjustment and Worker Dislocation was appointed by Secretary of Labor William E. Brock in October 1985. The 21-member task force includes representatives from government, industry, labor, academia and the private economic research community.

# # #

The public employment service is a nationwide system which provides services to individual seeking employment, and to employers seeking workers. The system also facilitates the match of job seekers and employers within and among the States and performs basic work test activities for the States' unemployment compensation systems.

# # #

The U.S. Employment Service and its affiliated state agencies administer a labor certification program required by the Immigration and Nationality Act. In fiscal 1984, approximately 31,000 applications for permanent and temporary labor certifications were processed.

# # #

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IN THIS ISSUE:

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S JOE JUAREZ
HONORED BY NATIONAL VETERANS' GROUPS

HISPANIC WOMAN COMPLETES
INTENSIVE CAREER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES-NOVEMBER 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of December 22, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S JOE JUAREZ
HONORED BY NATIONAL VETERANS' GROUPS

WASHINGTON -- Joe C. Juarez, who has devoted his 12-year federal career working on behalf of veterans and their families, has been honored by five national veterans' groups and the federal Veterans Administration.

Juarez received awards in recognition of his "leadership, enthusiasm and commitment" from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, AMVETS, and the VA.

Since 1984, Juarez has been in charge of directing and implementing Labor Department training and other employment-related services for the nation's veterans. The wide range of programs and services is delivered under various laws, including the Job Training Partnership Act and the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act.

Juarez was also praised for his excellence in coordinating Labor Department activities with other federal, state and local agencies.

A native of Loving, N.M. Juarez has been with the Labor Department since 1974. He has held positions of increasing responsibility with veteran-related programs to assure that veterans and their families are provided employment, reemployment and training services.

Juarez will soon begin a year's career development program with the national office of the Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

Week of December 22, 1986

HISPANIC WOMAN COMPLETES
INTENSIVE CAREER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

PHILADELPHIA -- A 26-year old Philadelphia woman has become the first Hispanic employee to complete an upward mobility program designed to help support staff move into the professional ranks of the U.S. Department's mid-Atlantic regional Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

Gloria Collazo Scotland, a native of Puerto Rico, began her career with the OIG's audit division seven years ago, starting as a clerk in the Philadelphia office. Now, having successfully completed two years in the OIG's "UPMO" (short for Upward Mobility) training, she is a program analyst for the fiscal watchdog agency.

Working with adult teams, Scotland helps to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of Labor Department grants, contracts and internal operations in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Her UPMO training was intensive and demanding. It included a five-part series of accelerated accounting courses, taught at the rate of two weeks per college-level course by instructors from the University of Virginia. It also provided on-the-job experience on actual auditing projects as well as other related classroom instructions.

Looking back on her two years in UPMO, Scotland describes her training period as "both extremely interesting and totally exhausting". She credits the support of family and co-workers for the encouragement she needed to see the program through.

"At this time, I'm involved in auditing a Job Training Partnership Act service delivery area in eastern Pennsylvania," she says. "The work is very detailed and exacting, but I feel prepared and confident," she adds.

Agreeing with her self-assessment is Robert Curtis, regional inspector general for the OIG-Audit office in Philadelphia.

"Gloria has come a long way since her days in our clerical pool," says Curtis. "She deserves a tremendous amount of credit for her accomplishment, and we're all very proud to have her on our team!"

# # #

Week of December 22, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--NOVEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.2 percent from October to November seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had risen 0.3 percent in October and 0.4 percent in each of the 2 months before that. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods also increased 0.2 percent over the month, following a 0.3 percent drop in October and a 0.5 percent rise in September. After climbing 1.6 percent from September to October, the crude materials price index was unchanged in November.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices turned down slightly, following an October advance. The index for energy goods, which had decreased substantially a month before, showed no change in November. After an unusually large October rise, prices for finished goods other than foods and energy resumed the more modest upward pace that has characterized the last several years.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.1 percent in November to 290.7 (1967=100).

From November 1985 to November 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index fell 1.9 percent. During the same period, consumer food prices increased 4.1 percent, the index for energy goods declined 37.9 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 3.0 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 2.2 percent. The index for intermediate goods decreased 4.1 percent in the 12 months ended in November 1986, and prices for crude goods were 8.6 percent lower than they had been a year earlier.

# # #

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

About 58,100 workers were certified as eligible to receive benefits under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1986. Benefits to workers who have been dislocated or displaced include training, counseling, job search and relocation payments.

# # #

More than 328,000 apprentices received training, and more than 94,000 new apprentices entered training, during fiscal year 1985, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985. The apprenticeship program is administered by the department's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training.

# # #

The Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Program served 52,880 persons from July 1984 to June 1985, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for fiscal year 1985. Services include training, emergency assistance, health and medical care, and nutritional services.

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Week of December 22, 1986

NOTE TO THE EDITORS:

Please be advised that this news packet will not be published for the next two weeks.

We will resume publication with the issue for the week of January 12, 1987.

Best wishes for a joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

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